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# The China Mail.

THE HONGKONG CHINESE MAIL  
每日午報  
(HONGKONG, H.K.)  
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CHINA MAIL  
Manager and Publisher  
SUBSCRIPTION  
For Dollars a year, deliverable in Hong-  
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No. 10996

號十三月五年八十九百八千一英

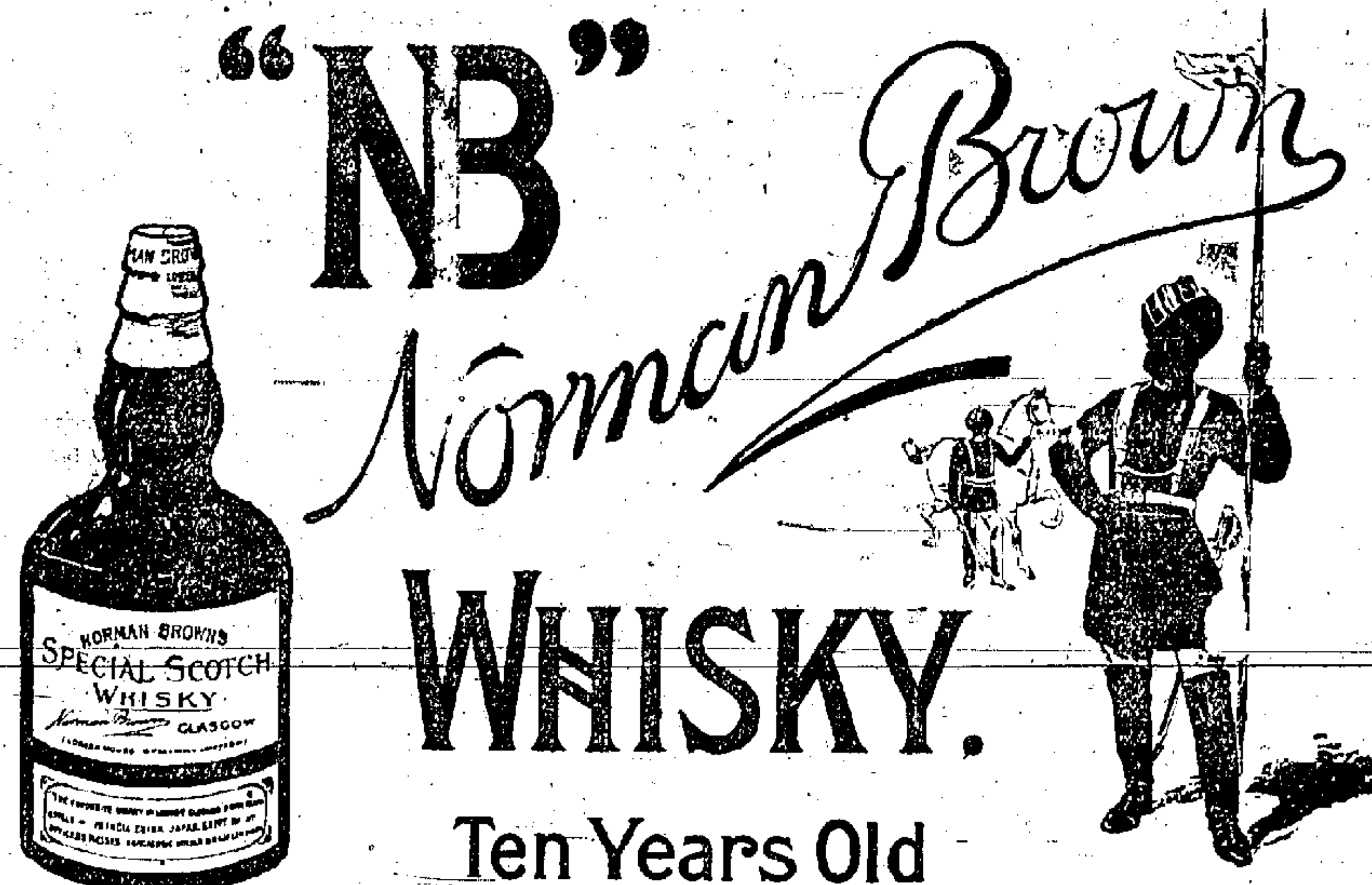
HONGKONG, MONDAY, MAY 30, 1898.

日一十月四年戌戊

PRICE, \$2.50 PER MONTH.

## Business Notices.

**"NB" Norman Brown Whisky.**  
Ten Years Old



Sold by LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., G. GIRAULT, at Thomas's Grill Room, and all Retail Stores.



### VICTORIA PRECEPTORY.

A REGULAR MEETING of the  
VICTORIA PRECEPTORY will be held  
at the FREEMASONS' HALL on MONDAY,  
the 30th May, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely.  
Visiting Sir Knights are cordially invited  
to attend.  
Hongkong, May 26, 1898.

THE GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO.,  
LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that under the  
Powers conferred by the SPECIAL  
RESOLUTIONS Passed and Confirmed on the  
5th and 25th days of June, 1897, the  
Undermentioned General Managers did on the  
30th day of April, 1898, make a CALL of  
\$2.50 per SHARE on Account of the Price  
of the NEW SHARES, issued in Pursu-  
ance of such Resolution, and a Call of \$2.50  
on Account of the Premium for each such  
Share, and that such Calls are PAYABLE  
at the Offices of the General Managers,  
No. 3, Praya Central, Victoria, Hongkong,  
on or before the 31st May, 1898.  
Upon Payment of such Calls and Pro-  
duction of the Certificates for the shares, in  
respect of which the same are paid, a Note  
of the Payment will be indorsed on the  
Certificates.  
Dated the 2nd day of May 1898.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,  
General Managers.

CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN AND  
MORTGAGE CO., LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that the  
General MEETING of SHARE-  
HOLDERS in the above Company will be  
held at the Company's Offices, No. 3,  
Praya Central, Victoria, Hongkong, on  
SATURDAY, the 4th of June, at 11.30  
a.m.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,  
General Managers.

Hongkong, May 24, 1898.

NOTICE.

OPEN for Enquiries, Private or  
Public, to disburse on 'THE TRUE  
WORK OF THE OCEAN.' Unique dis-  
play for all Christian Enterprises.  
Grand enlightenment in the Science of  
navigation, 'True' mode etc. Personal  
interview requested.  
AGENDA obtainable from WILL  
FACANE O'X, Instructor of Mathematics,  
science and art, 4, Morrison Hill Road,  
Hongkong.

Hongkong, May 23, 1898.

Kinghorn & Macdonald,

Consulting Mechanical Engineers  
and Surveyors.

CONSTRUCTORS FOR THE SUPPLY OF ALL  
KINDS OF MACHINERY AND  
APPLIANCES.

ICE MAKING.

MESRS. KINGHORN and MAC-  
DONALD having been appointed  
Sole Agents for Messrs. J. and E. HALL'S  
PATENT REFRIGERATING MACHINERY, are  
prepared to supply Estimates, Plans and  
Specifications for all sizes of Machinery.  
Address, Praya Central, under Hongkong  
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Telephone, No. 145.

Telegrams, "KINGHORN," Hongkong.

A. B. C. & A. Codes used.

JOHN W. KINGHORN,

M. M. G. & Co., Ltd., London.

DONALD MACDONALD

Hongkong, May 23, 1898.

DENTISTRY.

SUI SANG.

(Lately Practising with Dr. I. SARATA.)

DENTIST.

No. 8, Queen's Road Central.

Hongkong, January 1, 1898.

CHAS. J. GAUFF & Co.,

Chronometer, Watch & Clock Makers,

Jewellers, Gold & Silver Smiths.

NAUTICAL, SCIENTIFIC AND  
METEOROLOGICAL  
INSTRUMENTS.

Vertical Sundials, Aneroid  
Barometers, and all the latest  
Scientific Instruments, at very  
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ADAMANT & Co., Electric-Plated Ware,  
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DIAMOND JEWELLERY.

A splendid collection of the latest  
European designs, at very moderate prices.

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ORANGE GIN, per Dozen ..... \$10.00  
AMERICAN COCKTAILS, per Dozen ..... 12.00  
NERES VERMOUTH (BAMBOO), per Dozen ..... 14.00

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H. PRICE & Co.,  
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PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM  
NAVIGATION COMPANY

WILL dispatch VESSELS to the Undermentioned PORTS on the DATES

named:—

FOR STRAITS. CAPTAIN. DATE

STRAITS & BAY Brindisi ..... C. H. WATKINS, R.N. .... Noon, 31st May.

LONDON ..... E. R. DOWELL, R.N. .... About 9th June.

SHANGHAI ..... R. A. PETERS, R.N. .... About 10th June.

SHANGHAI ..... S. BARON, R.N. .... About 10th June.

LONDON & ..... C. F. PRESTON, R.N. .... Noon, 11th June.

YOKOHAMA ..... S. DE B. LOCKYER, R.N. .... Daylight, 12th June.

\* See Special Advertisement.

For Freight or Passage, and further Particulars, apply to

H. A. RITCHIE, Superintendent.

P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office,  
Hongkong, May 28, 1898.

1098

COTTAM & Co.

(JUST RECEIVED)

TOWNEND'S SUN HATS.

COLCUTTA PITH HATS.

STRAW HATS & TWEED CAPS.

770

ARE YOU LOSING FLESH?

This is one of the very first steps of disease. It is a warning note.  
You cannot afford to grow thin. Flesh is strength. If you lose it  
your blood becomes depleted, and Consumption, Scrofula, Anemia, or  
some other wasting disease will follow.

Scott's Emulsion

is a palatable nourishment that assists in forming healthy flesh. It  
enriches the blood, and overcomes the weak, emaciated tendencies  
which loss of flesh denotes. It gives vitality. Sold by all Chemists.

Sole Agents for Hongkong and the Empire of China: WATKINS & Co., Hongkong.

1099

PEAK HOTEL.

1350 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL.

A FIRST-CLASS HOTEL adjoining the Tramway Terminus. Fine HEALTHY  
LOCATION, Commanding Magnificent View of the City and Harbour, the Mainland  
of China, and Islands; cool, southwesterly breezes in Summer.

Well appointed Rooms, attentive Service and excellent Cuisine.

J. MANOESS, Chef de Cuisine. GEO. J. O'BANNA, Manager.

\* GRAVEBURN will be open on June 1st; for Rooms apply to Manager, Peak Hotel.

City Office, No. 7, Duddell Street.

1754

ALHAMBRA FACTORY,

MANILA CIGARS.

THE DUC DE MONTEBELLO

CHAMPAGNE.

HARVEY'S ROYAL TAWNY PORT.

Hongkong Agent:— W. HUTTON POTTS,

Offices: DAILY FARM BUILDING,  
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WINDSOR HOTEL

HONGKONG.

THIS Establishment, situated in the  
elegant Building known as 'CON-  
NAUGHT HOUSE,' offers First-Class Ac-  
commodation to Residents and Travellers.  
Passenger Elevator, from Entrance Hall  
to each Floor, in charge of experienced  
Attendants.  
Favourable Arrangements made for  
Families and for Monthly or Extended  
Periods.

BILLIARDS

P. BOHN,

Proprietor and Manager.

Hongkong, September 11, 1897.

1097

TERMS VERY MODERATE

Consultation Free.

Hongkong, April 8, 1898.

POITYAMA & Co.

DEALERS in all kinds of JAPANESE  
CURIOS.

At Moderate Prices.

No. 9, D'Almeida Street.

Head Office, No. 44, Sakaimachi, 1 Ootomae,  
Kobe.

Hongkong, February 11, 1898.

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## Business Notices.

BELL'S ASBESTOS EASTERN AGENCY, Ltd.,

HONGKONG HOTEL—PRAYA.

SOLE EASTERN AGENTS FOR:



ALUMINIUM & GENERAL FOUNDRY SH. LTD., NEW WIRE WOVEN ROOFING CO.

SNOWDON SON'S & Co., 'SNOWDRIFT,' GEISLER'S STEAM TRAP.

BERGER & SON'S LTD., PAINTS & VARNISH, TURNER BROS. & MATTHEWS' STEEL GOODS.

W. WILSON COBURN, (SATURDAY) 'VANDERBILT' BELTING.

Bell's Packings and Jointings are sold by the British, French,

Russian, Italian, Swedish and Spanish Navies, also by

Principal English, Colonial and South American

Railway Companies.

KINGHORN & MACDONALD,

MANAGERS.

24

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

CHRISTY'S TERA HATS.

WASHING TIES.

FOR TYING INTO KNOT OR BOW.

BLACK AND BROWN LEATHER SHOES.

WHITE CANVAS SHOES.

TENNIS SHOES.

BATHING COSTUMES.

TENNIS SHIRTS.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

1018

CHALLENGER'S PIANOS

ESTABLISHED, 1804. MONTHLY PAYMENTS,

\$250 to \$600. Lane, Crawford & Co.

1954

DAKIN'S SINGLE SEIDLITZ

A MOST AGREEABLE AND EFFECTIVE EFFERVESCENT APERIENT.

PURE VOLATILE

EUCALYPTUS OIL

SPECIALLY REFINED.

AROMATIC

QUININE AND IRON TONIC

Enriches the Blood, Strengthens the System, and imparts tone  
and energy to the Digestive Organs.

THE VICTORIA DISPENSARY,

LADIES

From the PRAY, KOWLOON, and OUTLYING DISTRICTS SHOPPING in the City can get

AFTERNOON TEA

AT THE

HONGKONG HOTEL

in the READING ROOM, where the MARKER is in attendance Daily.

383

AQUARIUS does NOT ALTER the flavour or character of

WINE or SPIRITS when mixed with them, NOR DOES

IT DISCOLOUR THEM.

AQUARIUS is made with PURE TREBLE DISTILLED

WATER ONLY.

ABSOLUTE PURITY CAN ONLY BE OBTAINED BY

DISTILLATION.—Daily Telegraph, London.

Galdbeck, Macgregor & Co.,

AGENTS.

AQUARIUS COMPANY

1096

W. POWELL & Co.

CAPITAL ASSORTMENT OF

LADIES' SAILOR HATS.

BLACK—WHITE—COLOURED.

W. POWELL & Co.

Hongkong, May 23, 1898.

1025

ASK FOR FERGUSON'S

P. & O.

SPECIAL LIQUEUR, 10 YEARS OLD

HIGHLAND WHISKY.

FERGUSON'S

SPECIAL CREAM

BREADALBANE HIGHLAND WHISKY.

These are the finest productions of Scotland,  
and are absolutely of all delicious tastes.

THE CREME DE LA CREME OF

WHISKIES.

PURE AND MILD.

Sole Importers,

F. BLACKHEAD & Co.

70

## Business Notices.

DRINK IT WITH TIFFIN, DINNER,  
AND SUPPER.

FERNAND QUENARDEL CHAMPAGNE

CUVÉE RESERVE EXTRA DRY 1893.

QUARTS \$37.00, PINTS \$36 PAR CASE

FLEUR DE CHAMPAGNE

(THE IDEAL LIQUEUR).

SOLE AGENTS: WATKINS & Co.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO.,  
LIMITED.

FIRE-CLAY WORKS, DEEP WATER BAY, HONGKONG.

CEMENT FACTORY, GREEN ISLAND, MACAO.

PORTLAND CEMENT,

GLAZED STONEWARE DRAIN PIPES AND FITTINGS, GLAZED PAVING,

BRICKS AND TILES, FIRE BRICKS AND FIRE CLAY,

&c., &c.

For Prices and further particulars, apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co., General Managers.

G. FALCONER & Co.,  
WATCH-MAKERS AND JEWELLERS,  
NEW SELECTIONS OF  
DIAMOND JEWELLERY AND ENGLISH SILVER WARE.

HIGH-CLASS GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES.

LARGE ASSORTMENT OF SPECTACLES.

PINCE-NEZ AND EYE PRESERVES.

G. FALCONER & Co., ARE AGENTS FOR ROSS'S FAMOUS TELESCOPES AND

BINOCULARS, LORD KELVIN'S NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS,

ADMIRALTY CHARTS AND BOOKS.

LATEST PATTERNS OF SILVER PRIZE CUPS NOW IN STOCK.

64, QUEEN'S ROAD.

Hongkong Steam Launch Co.

LAUNCHES FOR SALE, HIRE OR CHARTER,

For Picnic, Shooting, Bathing Parties, &c.

Specifications and Drawings for the Building of Launches, Tug-

Boats, Water Boats, and small Craft of every Description.

Apply to COMPANY'S OFFICE, 16 PRAYA CENTRAL.

A. G. GORDON, General Manager.

Hongkong, April 1, 1898.

763

H. F. CARMICHAEL,

Consulting Engineer and Surveyor.

12, PRAYA CENTRAL.

New and Second-Hand LAUNCHES FOR SALE.

DESIGNS and Specifications for all

Classes of Steamships; Launches a

speciality. New Work and Repairs en-  
gaged.

Telegrams: 'CARMICHAEL' Hongkong.

Telephone No. 111.

H. F. CARMICHAEL.

Hongkong, March 29, 1898.

649

NOTICE TO AMERICAN CITIZENS.

AMERICAN CITIZENS residing in the

Consular District of Canton, which

includes SAMSHUI, WUZHOU, MACAO,

SWATOW, HOIKOW and PAKHOI, are

requested to Register at this Consulate

either Personally or by Certificate setting

forth the Date and Place of Birth and last

Residence in the United States. The

Advantages of Registration are ob-  
vious and may prove of value in time of  
need.

There is no fee or charge for Registration.

EDWARD BELLOE,  
U. S. Consul.

UNITED STATES CONSULATE,

Canton, China, 1st Feb., 1898.

358

A LONG FELT WANT AT LAST

SUPPLIED.

MR. J. EDWARDS having obtained a

lease from the Government, and

having erected a PIER and COMMODOUS

MATHEMATICAL WATERFALL BAY will

run the First-Class Steam Launches

from BANG WANG every day during the







There is an epidemic at Sansepe in Siam, described as a malignant form of smallpox.

The Blue funnel steamer *Sargodon* is taking a thousand Chinese passengers from Amoy to Singapore.

H.M.S. *Pique*, which arrived to-day from Manila, is expected to leave for home about the end of the week. H.M.S. *Hermione*, the relief for this ship, is at present at Singapore.

A Gun laser was fired \$30, with the alternative of six weeks' imprisonment, at the Magistrate to-day, for assaulting the Indian policeman on duty at Kowloon Ferry Wharf last night.

At the Magistrate to-day a Chinaman was fined \$10 for cutting grass on the Observatory Hill, Kowloon. A Chinaman was also sentenced for three months' imprisonment, with hard labour, for issuing counterfeit dollars at Yaukai.

A Kiosque expedition is to start from Hongkong about the end of this week. A schooner has been fitted and is to be commanded by Captain Whistler, R.N.R. Mrs. Whistler accompanies her husband, and Mr. Watte, formerly with the Green Island Cement Co., is one of the party.

We understand (says the *Methodist Times*) that a marriage has been arranged between Rev. William Musson, now on furlough from Hongkong, and Miss Liza Denny, daughter of Mr. Jonathan Denny, of Holly Cottage, Wandsworth. The ceremony will take place on June 21.

A circular letter from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated Downing Street, 26th April, is published in the *Gazette*, together with a letter from the Foreign Office embodying rules for the observance of neutrality in the war between the United States and Spain, and copies of Her Majesty's proclamations of neutrality.

The British barque *Marion Woodside* (Captain G. Russell), which left Manila Bay on the 14th inst., arrived in port on Sunday. The vessel has been lying outside the harbour since the 22nd inst., the captain remaining outside because of a small-pox had occurred amongst the crew. The *Marion* brought over a small parcel of letters from Manila.

The following news from the *Bangkok Times* will be disappointing to the building trade in Hongkong:—We understand that no task rates have, so far, come down to Bangkok since the commencement of the present Siam year, and that the mills have in consequence for the most part stopped work. The price of task promises to be very high this year.

Yesterday, Sergeant Smith arrested a ricksha coolie for attempting to rob a merchant sailor. The sailor, who was intoxicated, was a passenger in prisoner's ricksha, and the coolie drove him into a dark lane and was proceeding to rob him of his watch, when arrested. At the Magistrate to-day, the coolie was fined \$10. The sailor was afterwards placed in the dock, and fined \$7 for creating a disturbance in the Police Station at West Point.

On Saturday night, a concert was held by the members of the Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders of Hongkong in the Institute. The following excellent programme was performed:—  
Overture, "The Bohemian Girl" by Mr. A. J. W. Farr.  
Song, "The Song of the Sea" by Mr. J. W. Farr.  
Song, "The Song of the Sea" by Mr. J. W. Farr.  
Song, "The Song of the Sea" by Mr. J. W. Farr.  
Song, "The Song of the Sea" by Mr. J. W. Farr.  
Song, "The Song of the Sea" by Mr. J. W. Farr.

Mr. Crispin and another member gave a splendid rendering of "Larkwood Watch," and Mr. C. Reid gave some pleasing guitar and other solos. A most interesting contribution to the programme were the songs from the microphone by Mr. J. W. Farr. Mr. A. J. Farr played the accompaniments. The concert concluded at twelve o'clock.

Piano Tuning and Repairs, New Music, Melodine, Banjos, fine stock.—Robinson Piano Co.

A very bad incident occurred on Sunday, the 15th May, in Christ Church, Kowloon. According to the *Methodist Times*, just after the service commenced a young man who had taken a seat near the choir was seen to turn ashy pale and to fall forward. Such assistance as was possible was at once rendered him by several persons who were seated near him. He was already unconscious when he was brought to the hospital, and died on Monday.

CHAMBERLAIN'S COLIC, CHOLERA, AND DIARRHŒA REMEDY.

A splendid remedy for bowel complaints in their various forms, both for adults and children. It is just such a medicine as every family should keep at hand, and especially during the summer season when cholera, cholera morbus, dysentery, diarrhoea, bloody flux and cholera infantum are most prevalent. A few doses of this remedy will check any ordinary attack of these diseases. It can be depended upon even in the most severe and dangerous cases. When reduced with water and sweetened it is pleasant to take, children like it, and every family should keep it at hand.

## REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

(Supplied to the "China Mail.")

LONDON, 27th May, 1898.

### MORE TROUBLE FOR SPAIN.—RE-VOLT IN THE CAROLINES.

The Governor of Manila telegraphs to Madrid that a general revolt has occurred in the Caroline islands.

### THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.

Admiral Sampson with seventeen ships was last seen on Wednesday off the North Coast of Cuba.

At a conference between President McKinley, the Secretaries for War and the Navy, the Generals and Admirals, it is understood that a decision was arrived at to undertake speedy operations against Porto Rico, Cuba, and the Philippines if it is proved that Admiral Cerveras is shut up in Santiago de Cuba.

## THE WAR.

### THE FIGHT IN CAVITE BAY.

CORRECT NUMBERS OF KILLED AND WOUNDED.

Hongkong, May 30.

A Manila correspondent, who has read the interview of our Special Correspondent with Admiral Montojo, points out that the Spanish Admiral is only 65 years old and not, as stated in the printed record of the interview, the *Peluso*, one of the ships destroyed by the Americans, did not take part in the fight; she had no guns on board and was undergoing repairs at the time. On the night of the fight, whilst the cable was still intact, the following despatch from the Minister of Marine at Madrid was received by Admiral Montojo:—

"Honour and Glory to those who have fought heroically for their Country!"

The following is the correct statement of killed and wounded on the Spanish side:—In the ships, 78 killed and 235 wounded; in the Arsenal, 23 killed and 45 wounded; total 331. The original reports were 400 killed and 600 wounded; but we are informed that there were little more than 1,000 men in all on board the Spanish ships.

We are informed that the real reason why Admiral Dewey gave the order to cease firing and retire after the naval engagement in Cavite Bay was not so much to allow his men to partake of breakfast as to conserve his supplies of ammunition. He found that his men were pumping the ammunition out-board at such a rate as seriously threaten to exhaust the stock. The *Boston* is said to have fired over 600 rounds in the first engagement, and only a slightly smaller amount in the second. Having crippled the majority of the Spanish ships and holding the remainder at his mercy, Admiral Dewey could afford to call a halt to compare notes and reconsider future movements. The respite was, of course, welcomed by the exhausted crews. For Admiral Dewey, the whole of the officers and men have the sincerest admiration. He it was that took the first risk of mines or torpedoes at the entrance of the Bay, and he it was that led off in the fight with the Spanish fleet. For his judgment as well as his pluck and dash he is warmly praised by all.

There is an impression in some quarters that because the Spaniards were beaten they are necessarily poor fighters. On this score, an attempt is being made to belittle the American success. This is hardly fair. Impartial observers, men who have no reason to favour the Spaniards, are unanimously of opinion that in spite of the blunders of their superiors the Spanish sailors fought pluckily and well. Their ships, it must be remembered, were anchored part of the time, and during the remainder of the fight had a prescribed area in which to manoeuvre, thus affording comparatively easy targets for the American gunners, whereas the American ships were under full steam, were therefore mobile, and manoeuvred in such a way as to make them less easy of attack. These facts point to one conclusion—that the Spanish sailors still retain the fighting spirit that animated their progenitors. Should the naval forces in the Atlantic be brought into action under happier auspices than the Philippine squadron, the fight with the American ships should be on more equal terms, and the probability is, in sporting phraseology, "more open."

### 'WELL DONE, ZAFIRO'

One incident in Manila Bay has not yet been recorded in the local press. A day or two after the fight, the *Zafiro* (which has been utilised by Admiral Dewey for numerous odd jobs of varying degrees of importance), to the amazement of the people on shore, was seen heading shorewards off Malate. When within a thousand yards the excited spectators could see naval men on board busily sounding the forebore in front of the city. It was known by this time that Admiral Dewey had informed the Captain-General that the city would not be bombarded unless any of his ships was fired upon by the Spanish batteries. The question on every lip was—Has Dewey sent in the *Zafiro* to draw the enemy's fire? Those who knew Admiral Dewey must know that if he had been his intention he would have sent one of his cruisers and not an unprotected merchantman, and, needless to say, this was not his intention. The flag captain was not heard the *Zafiro* for the sole purpose of sounding the forebore.

or future operations. It was an exciting quarter of an hour, however, alike for the people on shore and the crew of the *Zafiro*. On board, without the aid of binoculars, they could see one of the big guns on the Luneta being trained after them. The good old *Zafiro* as she is called, was driven at full speed, and her officers and crew were so intent upon finishing their little job before being fired upon that they did not hear the recall shot fired by the *Baltimore*. Admiral Dewey has found the *Zafiro* exceedingly useful. It was she who grappled for and out the Hongkong-Manila cable, and afterwards the Manila-Iloilo cable. The Hongkong portion of the cable was buoyed with a heavy spar, but a few days later it was found that the spar had been annexed by some 'limp-jawed skipper' and the cable allowed to sink. The cutting of the Iloilo cable was a smart piece of work. Admiral Dewey gave Captain Whitton only a very limited time to carry out the operation. It was done within the time allowed, bringing up the signal 'Well done, *Zafiro*!' from Admiral Dewey's flagship.

### 'SHADOWING' THE ZAFIRO.

SEIZURE OF PROVISIONS.

Since her arrival in Kowloon Bay, the *Zafiro* has been under close surveillance of the Hongkong Police. Doubtless, the Hongkong authorities are anxious to escape the charge of aiding and abetting any one of the intelligent forces with that object in view are desirous of preventing contraband of war being transferred from the Colony to the *Zafiro*. On Saturday evening, a lighter and one or two junks belonging to the compradore A. Tes were seized, together with the steam launch towing the boats to the Bay. The total value of the stores seized amounts to about \$5,000. There seems to be some misapprehension as to the nature of these stores. We are informed that before the *Zafiro* left Manila, the officers of the various U.S. cruisers commissioned one or two of their number to bring off some of the luxuries of life of which they have been deprived by their prolonged stay in Philippine waters. These are not naval stores in any sense of the word—merely personal effects, luxuries for the most part, of the American officers. We are informed there was nothing contraband, and the seizure is likely to cause much irritation, so much so that the base of supplies of this nature will probably be transferred from Hongkong to Amoy or some other of the coast ports. Already, we have good authority for stating, the U.S. squadron has spent over one and a half millions of dollars in Hongkong; and, if nothing contraband is being smuggled on board the despatch vessels, it will be a pity if this lucrative business is lost to the Colony. Of course, no one will for a moment sympathise with any attempt to smuggle contraband supplies out of the Colony, but where the business is legitimate it would be a gross mistake if over-zealous officials, by undue interference, were allowed to drive the trade away from the place.

Last night, for instance, some police officers made an unsuccessful raid upon a launch party in the Harbour. Mr. Consul-General Wilman, with a party of ladies and gentlemen, went for a refreshment in the Bay. The launch was promptly 'spotted' by a vigilant police officer—he was only doing his duty—and the picnic launch was ordered to slacken speed to allow the police party to board. Mr. Wilman assured the officer in charge that there was absolutely nothing on board that could be construed as contraband—unless, indeed, a palatable whisky and soda for the gentlemen and equivalent refreshments for the ladies came under the official designation. This discrepancy did not deter 'the slave of duty.' 'Na! na, ye canna "bulldoze" me!' A most exhaustive and exhaustive search was made. Cabbins, stokehold, coal bunkers, water tank, every conceivable hole and cranny was carefully searched, but without revealing any contraband. The incident lent some variety to the trip, but incidents like this may be multiplied detrimentally to the amenities of the harbour. We understand that another thorough examination of the launch was made this morning.

### ARRIVAL OF THE PIQUE.

POSITION OF BRITISHES IN MANILA—MORE THREATENING.

H.M.S. *Pique*, which has been on a trip to Iloilo and Manila, arrived from the latter port this morning. She brings very little news, as the situation is not changed materially. It is stated, however, by those on board that the position of the foreign residents, especially of the British residents, is becoming daily more and more precarious. One statement is made that placards have been posted throughout the city inviting the Spaniards against the Britishers, and it is stated, apparently with authority, that these malevolent placards have the sanction of the Captain-General. We venture to doubt this. The Captain-General has invariably extended his cordial protection to the whole of the foreign elements without distinction of nationality, and our special apology to the Hon. Secretary of the English Club houses of the insulting conduct of some Spanish officers towards English residents, leaving at the same time, in order to the effect that future transgressions in this respect would be promptly shot. There is always a haven of refuge for the foreigners at Cavite, but to rely

understand their reluctance to leave their private residences and business houses to the ruthless plunder of an excited populace. So long as the foreigners elect to remain inside the Spanish lines there will always be extreme difficulty in providing protection for all, even with foreign cruisers in the Bay. Private advices from Manila, however, do not convey any idea of extreme excitement amongst the foreigners. It may be that our correspondents are so peculiarly constituted that they are able to take a philosophical view of the situation. A large number of the British residents visited the *Pique* during her stay there, going off from the shore in bancas. The *Pique* arrived there from Iloilo on the 26th inst. and sailed for Hongkong on the 27th. There was a rumour that a naval engagement had been fought in the Atlantic and that the Americans had lost four ships. This is probably one of the many rumours circulated to keep up the courage of the Spaniards. The one fact that the rumour stated there were eight American battleships engaged in the fight is sufficient to stamp it as untrue.

A plentiful supply of fruit is being provided for the American ships from the natives behind Cavite, but beyond this the supplies from the shore are extremely limited.

### THE SITUATION AT ILOILO.

Even more than the foreigners in Manila, the foreign community of Iloilo is taking a very reassuring view of the position of affairs. A week or two before the arrival of the *Pique*, the rebels had made an incursion and looted some churches. To punish these insurgents a force of 1,000 Spanish troops had been sent out to the country. There are some thirty British residents and about sixty foreigners in all—including a few ladies and children. They have no desire to leave Iloilo, not being afraid of either party, and are reported to be making a profitable stay. The Spanish gunboat *Elcano* was not seen, but is believed to be in hiding up the river.

### THE SEIZURE IN HONGKONG HARBOUR.

LATER.

Since writing the above we have received later details regarding the seizure. The Water Police have kept a careful watch since the arrival of the *Zafiro* in Kowloon Bay, and yesterday afternoon the Police seized and detained in the basin at Tsim-shatui three cargo boats with provisions; the property of the Man Loong and Ka launch, the property of the Ching On firm, No. 7 Jubilee Street, and a cargo boat, belonging to the Fak Kee firm, No. 9 Pottinger Street. These boats were detained, we believe, under instructions from the Harbour Office. Launches going in this direction of the *Zafiro* were also closely watched. The master of a launch containing coolies, who were engaged to transfer the coal from a lighter alongside the *Zafiro* to the ship, was arrested, and at the Magistrate to-day was fined \$25 for a breach of the harbour regulations, in having left the waters of the Colony without having the necessary permit. This morning, Captain Superintendent May, Mr. T. Sercombe Smith, the Acting Colonial Secretary and H.E. Major-General Black, the Acting Governor, held a consultation, and the result of that conference was that the cargo boats and the launch in the basin at Tsim-shatui were released.

### MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE OF A BLUEJACKET.

ON Thursday morning a rather mysterious affair occurred at the Torpedo Depot, Kowloon. A party of bluejackets landed at the Depot from the *Bonaventura* to carry out some work in the yard. One of the men named McNeil was told off to assist another man to carry a coil of rope to the end of the wharf. The two men proceeded with the rope to the boat, and the other bluejacket returned to the remainder of the party, leaving McNeil in the boat. This is the last that has been seen of McNeil. A halt was called for coffee, and in the interval it was observed that McNeil was not amongst the party. The men searched the yard in vain, and a message was sent off to the *Bonaventura* that the man had disappeared. The usual notifications with regard to the arrest of stragglers were issued to the Police Stations. A search was made along the wall of the wharf on the supposition that the man had committed suicide, but not a vestige of a clue was discovered. McNeil was a rather morose man, and had conversed very little with his companions for some time.

### OUR OWN MANUFACTURE ARE THE BEST PIANOS FOR THIS CLIMATE.

Robinson Piano Co.

At the end of last month, a fearful storm swept over the Lesser South Islands. At Bua, in Sumatra, several villages were wholly destroyed. The bay there was strewn with floating corpses. In Portuguese Timor, many houses were destroyed and great damage was done to the crops. Over sixty persons perished there.

### 'ACTED LIKE A CHARM.'

MR. J. HARRY WATERS, READ.

Master, SEASON'S GREETINGS, RAVENHURST, says, "I regard Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy as a most useful household medicine. Have seen it used for cholera, rheumatism, and other very bad ailments, and in each of these instances the Pain Balm acted like a charm. Every one who uses Chamberlain's Pain Balm always speaks in the same terms. It should be kept in every medicine chest. Chamberlain's Pain Balm for sale everywhere. Price, 10 cents, and 50 cents per bottle. Watson & Co., Lowell, Mass., U.S.A."

## HONGKONG COAL MARKET.

Messrs Hughes and Hough, in their weekly Coal report dated May 27, give statistics of the coal expected under the following heads:—

*Yola*.—Richard Rickmers s.s., 2,000 tons (sold), Sailed January 20; Rita Rickmers s.s., 2,800 tons (sold), Sailed February 14; Yola, s.s., 3,000 tons (consignments), February 17; Duchess Anne s.s., 1,500 tons (sold), February 23; Old Kensington s.s., 3,500 tons (consignments), March 5; Prince Arthur s.s., 2,300 tons (sold), March 5; Cyrus s.s., 4,500 tons (sold), March 22; Metropolis s.s., 2,500 tons (for sale), 6 March 23; Muskrone s.s., 3,000 tons (for sale), 6 March 23; Celtic Bard s.s., 3,000 tons (for sale), April 13; Craigrobert s.s., 3,000 tons (for sale), April 13; Penelope s.s., 1,400 tons (for sale), April 23; Mennuair s.s., 700 tons (sold).  
*Hongay*.—Kebao, etc.—Aldershot s.s., 3,600 tons, Ousang s.s., 4,000 (both sold).  
*Japan*.—With the exception of 3,000 tons for sale by the Shin Maru, the following cargoes are sold:—Katsudoko Maru, 3,600; Arai Maru, 4,000; Terrier, 2,200; Fuku Maru, 2,700; Hikosan Maru, 4,700; Cheyoda Maru, 2,000; Lombard, 2,700; Amad, 2,000; Amara, 4,000; Dante, 3,000; Glenora, 2,500; Vriod, 2,700; Astrid, 2,000 tons.

The market has been very dull. Cardiff, a small sale is reported at \$24. Australian neglected. Small sales of Japanese coal.

## REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL.

INCREASING BUSINESS OF THE POST OFFICE.

Hongkong, May 27, 1898.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your report on the British Postal Service in Hongkong and China during the year 1897.

2. Approximate statistics of correspondence received and despatched during the year are given in table A, and from statistics taken in October. Compared with 1896 the amount of international correspondence shows an increase of 100,740 ordinary letters and post cards despatched, and 103,310 registered letters and post cards. Local correspondence shows a decrease of 1,140 registered articles; but a decrease of 1,140 registered articles shows a decrease of 45,000 letters and post cards and 17,000 newspapers, &c., but an increase of 1,980 registered articles. 3. Table B gives the monthly sale of stamps at Hongkong as compared with 1896, showing an increase of 1,140 stamps, the average monthly sale being a little over \$15,000 as against a little under \$13,500 in 1896.

4. Table C gives the statistics of parcels received and despatched, and Table D the comparison with 1896.

5. Table E gives the revenue and expenditure for the year, compared with 1896, shows a net increase in the revenue of \$18,729.12, the balance of revenue over expenditure being \$61,536.20—an increase of \$4,577.04 above that shown in 1896.

6. Table F shows the number of patents despatched to Europe by the P. & O. steamers and the amount of postage and insurance fees collected.

7. Table G shows the Money Order business done during the year.

8. Messrs Abbas and J. C. Remedios were appointed to the Registration Branch in February. Mr. Moore was transferred to the Registrar General's Office as a student interpreter in October, and Mr. Rodriguez to the Treasury in November. Messrs Luz and Simoes were appointed to the vacancies.

9. In February last the Imperial Chinese Post Office was established, and a conference was held at Messrs. Sercombe Smith and Co. for the purpose of discussing the details of that administration and of the Straits Settlements and myself.

Agreements for facilitating the transmission of correspondence, &c., were discussed and subsequently given effect to.

10. I inspected the British Postal Agency Office, situated with H.M. Customs in January last and found everything satisfactory, although later last year an inspection by an officer in the Local Audit found that one branch was not so carefully administered as it might have been.

11. A contract was made with the Hongkong, Canton and Swatow Steamship Company in May for the carriage of mails between the three ports, and as a result I was enabled to deal with the question of Chinese correspondents which had formerly been entangled out of and into the Colony.

12. I estimate the increase of revenue on that account at about \$5,000.

13. The question of accommodation is more pressing than ever, since there has been a very large increase of postal business in the last two or three years.

The following comparative table of revenue during the year will show this increase almost exactly:—

1893.....	£167,600
1894.....	192,170
1895.....	244,460
1896.....	245,280
1897.....	268,000

The experience of the first four months of the current year shows that the revenue will exceed \$350,000.

As an instance of improvement arising from proper provision in the above report I may state that the Registration Branch is now performing its work with as perfect accuracy as can be attained, no trouble or delay has been experienced for a good few months on account of loss of letters or other articles.

I therefore hope that Government will press on the construction of a new office without delay.

I may also call attention to the services of the subordinate officers though I have had no complaint I do not consider it necessary to represent anything to Government specially on the subject.

As an instance, the Compradore is paid only \$450 while he has to find security for \$1,000, handles over \$200,000 of Government money per annum, and is responsible for the conduct of the Chinese staff of over 30 servants.

The postmen too, who are supposed to be able to read and write Chinese to a certain extent, get very meagre pay—not more than a great many coolies, and house coolies, and it is therefore not a matter of surprise that the local delivery service is not so perfect as it might be, were better educated men engaged. I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient servant.

A. M. Thompson, Postmaster General.

The Honorable the Colonial Secretary.

Standard used Pictorial, cheap, to clear the market, easy terms, full guarantee.—Robinson Piano Co.

## ANNUAL REPORT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

WORK.

The annual report of the Director of Public Works for 1897 is published in the *Gazette*. The Hon. R. D. Ormsby, who signs the report, did not arrive until October, and he quotes from a report submitted by Mr. Chubb, who was in charge of the department as Acting Director of Public Works for the greater part of the year, giving details of work done under the different headings, and including Mr. Malsch's report on Crown lands and Mr. Crook's report on water and drainage works.

The following extracts are from the report:—

An area of 16½ acres at Deep Water Bay has, with the consent of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, been leased to the Royal Hongkong Golf Club for the purpose of a golf links subject to an annual rental of \$100.

Industrial Undertakings.—Satisfactory evidence of the progress of the colony as an industrial centre is afforded by the establishment of the numerous depots at North Point, the capacity of which is already being largely increased, and by the operations which are in active progress for the construction of a cement factory at Kowloon, cotton mills at East Point, and an extension of the Duck Company's premises at Kowloon.

Improvements, Recreation Ground, Happy Valley.—A considerable area of the extension of the Recreation Ground was turned over and rendered available for use towards the end of the year. The thirty-acre area, the director of the mill where it crosses the extension has been due to the non-arrival of ironwork ordered from England in connection with the work, which is probably accounted for by the unavailability of the mill.

Extension.—The alterations of the old and buildings have been begun by pulling down the Wing (known as D. Wing), which projected in an oblique direction into the southwest yard. This will admit of the creation of a convenient workshop, containing two floors, where can be carried on by the prisoners. Good progress is being made with the conversion of the associated cells into single cells and other minor improvements, the work being performed as far as possible without prison labour. A system of mains and hydrants has been laid throughout the old and new premises for the purposes of fire extinction.

Taipeihsan Improvement.—Very satisfactory progress has been made with the laying out of the reclaimed area. Most of the lots are now available for the erection of buildings, and a contract has been entered into which provides for the formation of the whole of the remaining lots. It is hoped that the work will be completed by about the middle of 1898, with the exception of the surfacing of some of the streets and lanes, which it may be considered prudent to delay until after the houses have been built.

The following list is given of public works which must be considered as it possible provided for within the next few years:—

## REVENUES.

The New Law Courts, the New Post Office and Treasury, a residence for the Governor at the Peak, improved and increased accommodation for the Police at the East and West ends of the city, and a New Harbour Master's Office will absorb all available funds for building purposes for many years to come. It is therefore unnecessary to mention other minor wants. The above are undoubtedly the most pressing.

## ROADS.

The completion of Macdonnell Road to its junction with Kennedy Road should be taken in hand next year. The plans for it are ready. A road from Wanchai Gap round the south side of Mount Nicholson, and Cameron to Wong-nai-ching Gap would be a very desirable addition to the roads in the Peak District, and would open up a beautiful part of the country, making access to Taitam and the eastern parts of the island from the higher levels easy. The comparatively level road from Plantation Road Station to Magesh Gap, to be completed in 1898, will much improve the later locality as affording easier means of reaching Victoria by 'ricksha and tram, and may possibly lead to further building of European residences beyond Wanchai Gap to which this road will give access.

The possibility of constructing a road from Victoria Gap, level, or at an easy gradient, to the middle between Victoria Peak and High West, and then down by the north face of the mountain to a point on the Peak Road, should be ascertained. Such a road would give access to splendid building sites.

The Victoria Jubilee Road round the Island will soon be in progress and its completion in a few years will prove an immense boon to the whole population of the colony, European and native. If followed as no doubt it will be in time, by a road-side driveway, the overgrown Victoria will probably be relieved by many of the better class of Chinese and Europeans moving out to the suburbs.

The roads in Kowloon are being pushed on, and should be liberally provided for annually, until the Kennedy Road on the West, and the Hung Hom Road on the East respectively reach the boundary which the cross road from Yaukai by the wells is carried on to the road on the East.

## WATER WORKS.

Mr. Cooper's able and exhaustive report of 1896 on the water supply goes very fully into the works that may be necessary to meet future requirements. On the completion of Wongnaihong reservoir, the additional reservoirs described in paragraphs 155 to 159 of Mr. Cooper's report should be undertaken, in view of the rapidly increasing population of the colony.

## REGULATORY WORKS.

The first work of this description to be provided for in the early future is at Taitokotai. Surveys have not yet been made, but a mere inspection of the locality makes it plain that such a work would not only be easy of execution but very beneficial, and probably extremely remunerative owing to the large extent of land to be reclaimed for a comparatively small expenditure. Stone and earth for the work are close at hand, while the levelling of the hills immediately above the Taitokotai village would make it possible to lay out the locality in the way that Yaukai and Mongkok have been treated, and satisfactorily provide for the housing population of the colony, hitherto frequently shifted from place to place, and occupying the fore-shore as squatters wherever it has been permitted. It is a great pity that the working coolie population of Hongkong can find quarters and inducement to live at the Kowloon side, in well-drained, airy streets, built as they are, being built with modern ideas of sanitation, and with the experience of the 'stranger' and 'settler' before eyes, instead of his being driven to the unhealthy localities of Chinatown in Victoria, the heart of the majority of the population of the colony will be great. The reclamation of the fore-shore beyond Arenal Street to East Point is a work bound to follow on the completion of the present works to the west, and in three years' time. Owing to the shallowness of the water, the cost would be much less than the cost of the reclamation in the west, and the work is certain to

prove remunerative, but it is a large question, and how it should be undertaken, and financed requires much consideration. In connection with the construction of the Victoria Jubilee Road, a very useful and profitable work can be done near Aberdeen, namely, the reclamation of the tidal flat adjoining the existing road to Little Hongkong. This salt water marsh or tidal flat is excellent, without much cost, with a small outlay, in the locality, and even in somewhat distant parts of the Peak District. However this may be, it will certainly be an advantage to reclaim it, to keep out the tides, and after it has been reclaimed by being kept for a time as a fresh water lake, turning it into rice fields. This work can be done as part of the new road at little or no additional expense. The area that can be reclaimed is from 30 to 40 acres.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

Among miscellaneous works to be done, when funds are available, may be mentioned



